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7 May 1965

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT : Photo Reconnaissance of Rail Traffic  
from China to North Vietnam

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to summarize for you possible photographic reconnaissance means for acquiring information on what may be a movement of rail supplies into Vietnam over Chinese rail lines during the next two weeks. In addition to established DRV targets, objectives of such coverage consist principally of the NVN/China trans-loading point at P'ing-hsiang and the main rail line running generally northeast from P'ing-hsiang to Heng-yang to Hankow to Cheng-chou. Rail traffic from the USSR into China (through the two transloading points of Chi-ning and Man-chou-li) would almost certainly be routed south through Cheng-chou.

2. The COMOR conclusion that it is unrealistic to recommend photo reconnaissance of the rail line running northeast from P'ing-hsiang is based on the following factors:

a. The weather is Category 5 and is expected to remain so indefinitely. This is from NRO operations

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NRO review(s) completed.

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DATE: 5/7/65

TO: [REDACTED]

FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: China Rail Coverage

REMARKS: The memo reflects the views and  
opinions of ORR [REDACTED],  
OCI [REDACTED] and  
OSA (Duckett). We have not had time for  
Front Office coordination with Front Offices  
of these components.

Copies have been sent to ORR, OCI,  
OSA and Chairman/COMOR.

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